

Message Text

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ACTION MBFR-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

NEA-10 GAC-01 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 OIC-04 AEC-11 ACDA-19

OMB-01 RSR-01 /155 W

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P R 171841 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8898

INFO SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

MBFR CAPITALS 461

USMISSION GENEVA

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C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 4147

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FROM US REP MBFR

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: MBFR: PRESENTATIONS ON AGENDA AT MAY 17 PLENARY

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: SPOKESMEN FOR THE TWO SIDES EXCHANGED
VIEWS ON AGENDA AT MAY 14 PLENARY. WESTERN PRESENTATION
BY CANADA FOLLOWED TEXT AS DEVELOPED IN AD HOC GROUP.
EASTERN PRESENTATIONS CONSISTED OF THREE BRIEF STATEMENTS
BY POLAND, GDR AND ROMANIA (TEXTS SEPTTEL). POLISH
STATEMENT, CLEARLY INTENDED AS VEHICLE FOR OFFICIAL
VIEW OF WARSAW PACT MINUA ROMANIA, SUGGESTED THAT
AGENDA COVER REDUCTION OF ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS
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IN CENTRAL EUROPE, AREA, AND ALSO LIST PRINCIPLE OF
UNDIMINISHED SECURITY. COMPLEMENTARY GDR STATEMENT
ALSO SUGGESTED AGENDA COULD INCLUDE SUBJECT OF WORKING
GROUPS. END SUMMARY.

2. POLISH STATEMENT SUGGESTED THAT AGENDA SHOULD
BE LIMITED TO BASIC ISSUES OF FORTHCOMING NEGOTIATIONS,
I. E., REDUCTIONS OF ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN
CENTRAL EUROPE; AND THE AREA TO BE COVERED BY POSSIBLE
AGREEMENTS; AND THE PRINCIPLE OF "UNDIMINISHED SECURITY"
(SIC). IT IS SUGGESTED THAT THESE BASIC POINT BE SET
FORTH IN A CLEAR AND CONCISE FASHION. POLISH STATEMENT
CHARACTERIZED EASTERN APPROACH TO AGENDA AS BASED ON
JANUARY 1972 PRAGUE DECLARATION, WHICH REFERRED TO QUESTION
OF REDUCTION OF BOTH FOREIGN AND NATIONAL ARMED FORCES
AND ARMAMENTS IN EUROPE. POLISH STATEMENT ALSO SAID
THAT PARTICIPATION AND PROCEDURES AGREEMENT REACHED IN
VIENNA TALKS INDICATED AGREEMENT AMONG PARTICIPANTS ON
THE AREA OF EVENTUAL REDUCTIONS AS BEING CENTRAL EUROPE.
STATEMENT DID NOT INDICATE THAT AREA WOULD IN EAST'S
OPINION HAVE TO BE FURTHER SPECIFIED BEYOND
MENTION OF CENTRAL EUROPE AS SUCH. POLISH
STATEMENT CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT AGENDA SHOULD FOCUS
ON KEY ISSUES OF FORCES, AREA, AND UNDIMINISHED SECURITY
WITHOUT TOUCHING ON OTHER MATTERS THAT COULD
DEFLECT ATTENTION FROM THE MAIN PURPOSE OF
NEGOTIATIONS.

3. GDR STATEMENT, LIKE POLISH STATEMENT, WAS
CHARACTERIZED AS REPRESENTING VIEWS OF THE SOCIALIST
DELEGATION. IT HAD TWO MAIN POINTS. ONE WAS THAT
THE PRESENT CONSULTATIONS SHOULD NOT DEAL WITH
SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES, AND THAT CONSEQUENTLY ANY
DISCUSSION OF AGENDA IN CURRENT TALKS SHOULD NOT
RPT NOT BE A DETAILED ONE BUT SHOULD FOCUS ONLY ON
BROAD ISSUES. OTHERASPECTS COULD OF COURSE BE RAISED
IS NEGOTIATIONS. SECOND POINT WAS THAT FORTHCOMING
WORK ON AGENDA SHOULD TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE
POSSIBILITY DURING NEGOTIATIONS OF ESTABLISHING A
WORKING GROUP TO DEAL WITH THE COMPLEX ISSUES RELATED
TO FORCE REDUCTIONS IN CENTRAL EUROPE.

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4. FIRST POINT OF ROMANIAN STATEMENT, WHICH
WAS APPARENTLY NOT COORDINATED IN ADVANCE WITH OTHER
EASTERN DELEGATIONS, WAS THAT ALL 19 PARTICIPANTS IN
PRESENT TALKS SHOULD TAKE PART IN WORK ON THE AGENDA,
AND SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE PRESENT AT MEETINGS AND
SPEAK AND CIRCULATE PAPERS ON QUESTION ON AGENDA.

ROMANIAN STATEMENT SAID THAT MAIN SUBJECT OF NEGOTIATIONS, I. E., REDUCTION OF ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE, SHOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT NEED FOR PREVENTING REDEPLOYMENT OF WITHDRAWN FORCES TO OTHER COUNTRIES AND REQUIRING THEIR DEMOBILIZATION. STATEMENT ALSO REITERATED THEMES IN ROMANIAN GENERAL REMARKS OF MAY 16 THAT MBFR NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE VIEWED AS A FIRST STAGE IN A BROADER FRAMEWORK OF EUROPEAN DISARMAMENT MEASURES, AND THAT DEVELOPMENT OF AGENDA IN CURRENT TALKS SHOULD NOT EXCLUDE POSSIBILITY OF INVITING OTHER INTERESTED EUROPEAN STATES TO ATTEND MEETINGS AND BE KEPT INFORMED. ROMANIAN STATEMENT ALSO RESERVED RIGHT OF ROMANIAN DELEGATION TO RETURN TO QUESTION OF AGENDA IN GREATER DETAIL AT A LATER STAGE.

5. COMMENT: OUR INITIAL IMPRESSION IS THAT POLISH AGENDA PROPOSAL IS INTENDED TO BE TAKEN LITERALLY AS SOLE EASTERN AGENDA PROPOSAL. GDR STATEMENT APPEARS TO BE CONCEIVED AS ARGUMENT AGAINST ANY DETAILED LIST SUCH AS THAT PRESENTED BY ALLIES. FACT OF SEPARATE GDR STATEMENT WHICH SAYS IT REPRESENTS VIEWS OF "OTHER SOCIALIST STATES" WAS PROBABLY INTENDED TO MINIMIZE PROMINENCE THAT MAVERICK ROMANIAN STATEMENT MIGHT HAVE HAD IN CONTRAST TO POLISH STATEMENT ALSON. HUMES

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